Need for a new airport at Vijayawada in A.P.

2023. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the coastal districts of Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam, Godavari are commercially and industrially developing districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that the people from these areas go to various foreign countries for education, employment and business purposes;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware of the ugrent need for an airport at Vijayawada; and

(d) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned Rs. 8 crores as interest-free loan for the development of airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) There is already an airport at Vijayawada suitable for operation of 50 seater class of aircraft. Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned Rs. 8.00 crores as interest-free loan to Airports Authority of India (AAI) for development of Vijayawada airport against which only Rs. 4.00 crores has been released. AAI has carried out strenghtening of existing runway and construction of new apron with taxiway at a cost of Rs. 8.32 crores at this airport. There is no plan for further development of this airport at present as no airline has made commitment for operation of their scheduled services to this airport.

Transfer of management of Imphal Airport to a private agency

2024. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to transfer management of Imphal Airport to a private agency;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that private agency will be subjected to maximum threat and presure of anti-social and anti-national elements; and

(d) whether eventual closure of the airport will put too much inconvenience to the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There is no plan, at present, to transfer the mangement of Imphal Airport to a private agency.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

War risk insurance for air travellers

2025. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangkok-based International Aviation Organisation has formulated a scheme for global war risk insurance for air travellers;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering adoption of this system for its domestic sectors as also on flights originating from the country; and

(c) what are the salient features of this scheme and what would be the fiscal impact when this scheme becomes operative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has proposed to set up a Global Aviation War Insurance Scheme for third party war insurance cover in excess of US $ 50 Million presently offered by the commercial insurance market. The scheme provides for a pool of funds based on payment of premium per passenger and a